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The Tokyo War Crimes Trial: An International Symposium

Howard S. Levie

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Russian males (excluding Moslems) and the subsequent intermarriage of the ethnic females and Russian males (Barbara A. Anderson and Brian D. Silver).

Sheila Fitzpatrick's essay, "Post-war Soviet Society: The 'Return to Normalcy,' 1945-1953," demonstrates that the process was anything but normal. Twenty million Soviet citizens were dead. One million Soviet POWs were returned to the U.S.S.R., as were "several million" Soviets who had been forced to labor in Germany. Two million Poles moved from the U.S.S.R. to Poland; more than 500,000 Ukrainians, Russians, Belorussians and Lithuanians moved in the opposite direction. Newly acquired territories were subjected to harsh collectivization. The army of 11.4 million soldiers was demobilized to less than 3 million by 1948 (many of these soldiers chose to remain in the cities). The Soviet peasant, the unsung hero of the war, was rewarded with lower prices and higher taxes (on his private plot). Many peasants migrated from the countryside to the towns.

The essays found in *The Impact of World War II on the Soviet Union* support the conclusion that "World War II represents an important watershed for the Soviet Union. Economically, it was the first real test of the Soviet system of central planning. Politically, it thrust the U.S.S.R. into the world arena as a major world power. Socially, it provided a cohesive force previously lacking in Soviet society." Given this impact, are we far away from ques-

tioning how it colors, if not displaces, the impact of the Bolshevik Revolution?

WALTER C. UHLER
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Hosoya, C. et al., eds. *The Tokyo War Crimes Trial: An International Symposium*. Kodansha International Ltd., 1986; dist. New York: Harper & Row. 248pp. \$50

This volume is the English-language record (the Japanese-language record was published in 1984) of a symposium held in Tokyo in May 1983, the subject being the post-World War II trial of major Japanese war criminals conducted in Tokyo from 1946 to 1948 before the International Military Tribunal for the Far East (IMTFFE). Apart from the Japanese participants in that symposium there were individuals from Burma, the People's Republic of China, Korea, the Federal Republic of Germany, the Netherlands, the Soviet Union, the United Kingdom, and the United States. The panelist from the Netherlands was the late Dr. B.V.A. Roling, who had served as the Dutch judge on the Tribunal.

While much has been written and published about the trial of the major German war criminals before the International Military Tribunal (IMT) at Nuremberg, the same cannot be said about the trial conducted before the IMTFFE. The judgment itself was never officially printed—this reviewer's copy is a 1,348-page, double-spaced, mimeographed copy

of unstated parentage of the majority opinion, issued in November 1948. While two complete transcripts of the proceedings of the IMT have been published in English, it has very probably also been published in French, German, and Russian. No transcript of the proceedings of the IMTFE had ever been published until this was done privately in 1981; obviously, there is a need for more information about the IMTFE. This book will help to serve that purpose.

Several of the participants attacked the validity of the trial on the basis of a claim of *tu quoque* ("thou too"), calling attention to Afghanistan, Vietnam, etc. Even had they referred to incidents which occurred prior to the Pacific War, rather than long after it, few experts in criminal law would take the position that this doctrine is a valid defense to a criminal charge.

There were numerous references made to the fact that the subject of Japanese experimentation in bacteriological warfare in China had not been included in the indictment. In his introduction, Dr. Roling states that this matter had been withheld from the Tribunal because "the American military authorities wanted to avail themselves of the results of these experiments, criminally obtained by Japan, and at the same time to prevent them from falling into the hands of the Soviet Union." While this reviewer had great respect for Dr. Roling (whose lectures on war crimes he attended at The Hague in 1960), he must disagree with that statement. Inasmuch as most of the

Japanese who had been importantly and personally involved in that shameful episode were without question known to be already in Soviet custody (some were tried by the Russians in 1949 in one of the few war crimes trials which they have made public), any withholding of information concerning the subject from the Soviet Union was obviously an impossibility and could not have been a motivating factor in the decision not to present evidence on the matter of the Tribunal.

As would be expected with a symposium consisting of a large group of participants from various disciplines (historians, international lawyers, practicing lawyers, professors, etc.), including a number who had participated in various capacities in the trial itself, there were conflicting opinions on many of the issues discussed. Under the circumstances, readers will undoubtedly disagree with some of the positions taken by the papers and discussions contained in this book. That will undoubtedly enhance rather than detract from its value. This book is invaluable in bringing the Tokyo trial out of the cellar and giving the event some of the historical and legal significance that it was intended to have by those responsible for its existence.

HOWARD S. LEVIE
Newport, Rhode Island

Allen, Louis. *Burma: The Longest War, 1941-45*. New York: St. Martin's Press, 1948. 686pp. \$29.95